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84. (Amended) An image processing method ~~according to~~
~~claim 80~~, comprising the steps of:
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receiving color image information and character code
data through a common line; B
separating the received color image information and
AZ character code data; and
developing and combining the separated color image
information and character code data in common color image
memory means,
wherein the color image information is of multi-value
color image data.

REMARKS

Claims 73, 74, 76, 77 and 84 have been amended and Claim 72 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-71 and 73-87 are in the case, with Claims 1, 9, 21, 37, 45, 52, 58, 71, 76, 80, 84 and 87 being in independent form.

The cover page of the Office Action indicates that Claims 71-87 are pending in the application. However, it is noted that original Claims 1-70 should also be pending. Clarification regarding this matter is respectfully requested.

Claims 73, 74 and 77 have been amended to be dependent from Claim 71, in view of the cancellation of Claim 72. Claims 76 and 84 have been written in independent form.

A Request For Approval To Make Drawing Changes is submitted herewith to label the drawings in accordance with the

Examiner's request. In the Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, the draftsman indicated that the solid black shading in Figs. 3 and 4 is not allowed. This objection is not fully understood, particularly since the original patent in this case also includes the same solid black shading in Figs. 3 and 4. The draftsman's objection to the paper size and the margins in Fig. 10 will be addressed when the present application is allowed and formal corrected drawings are filed.

The specification was objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to provide a written description of the invention, and Claims 71-87 were rejected on the same grounds. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection and rejection.

The Office Action suggests that the written description does not support means for developing color image information and character code data. In response, Applicants submit that an embodiment of this feature is clearly shown in Fig. 9 and is discussed on pages 6-8 of the present application. More specifically, character code data stored in buffer memory 904 is converted into image data by character code generator 906 and image data stored in buffer memory 903 is converted into a dot pattern by pattern generator 905. In addition, the Office Action suggests that the specification does not provide an adequate written description of the means for separating color image data from character code data. In response Applicants submit that the feature is supported in Fig. 9, in which an

enabling signal is issued from port "010" of decoder 902 when bit A₀ of received code 901 indicates "1", and an enabling signal is issued from port "09" of decoder 902 when bit A₀ of received code 901 indicates "0". Of course, Applicants' claims are not limited to the preferred embodiments. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the specification provides an adequate description of the invention. Withdrawal of the objection and rejection under Section 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claim 72 has been cancelled without prejudice and accordingly its rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, fourth paragraph, is now moot.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, prompt reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 758-2400 or by facsimile at (212) 758-2982. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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